

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Dwight A. Burford et al. Confirmation No.: 8066  
Appl. No.: 10/706,480 Group Art Unit: 1725  
Filed: October 27, 2003 Examiner: Lynne Renee Edmondson  
For: SYSTEM AND ASSOCIATED FRICTION STIR WELDING (FSW)  
ASSEMBLY, CONTROLLER AND METHOD FOR PERFORMING  
A FRICTION STIR WELDING OPERATION

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)**

Sir:

Attached is a list of documents on form PTO-1449 along with a copy of any cited foreign patent documents and non-patent literature document in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2). Also enclosed is a translation or a concise explanation of each non-English language document. More particularly, and in accordance with MPEP 609.04(a), Applicant encloses an English-language version of an action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, the action indicating the degree of relevance of each non-English language document found by that office.

It is requested that the Examiner consider these documents and officially make them of record in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and Section 609 of the MPEP. By identifying the listed documents, Applicant in no way makes any admission as to the prior art status of the listed documents, but is instead identifying the listed documents for the sake of full disclosure.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), before final Office Action or Allowance, whichever is earlier. In this regard, Applicant notes that a final Office Action was issued on July 25, 2006. As explained in Applicant's response of November 15, 2006, however, the final Official Action was prematurely issued due to the introduction of the new grounds of rejection. Applicant therefore submits this

In re: Dwight A. Burford et al.  
Appl. No.: 10/706,480  
Filed: October 27, 2003  
Page 2

Information Disclosure Statement with the presumption that the finality of the previous Office Action has been withdrawn.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the \$180.00 fee specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) or any additional fee, or credit any refund, to our Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,



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\*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO (Revised 07/2005)		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	10/706,480
		Filing Date	October 27, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Dwight A. Burford
		Group Art Unit	1725
		Examiner Name	Lynne Renee Edmondson
Sheet	2	of	2
		Attorney Docket Number	038190/268379

## **OTHER DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.